

15th March, 1956.

B.S.E. 1956/1.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

DIGEST OF CURRENT STATISTICS.

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GENERAL:

Employment, production and trade statistics available to date for 1956 indicate that economic activity in New South Wales continues at the relatively high level of 1955 but that the tendency to further expansion has eased.

Rainfall in most parts of the State during the first quarter of 1956 was well above average, and damage to farms, stock and buildings was caused by floods in the Hawkesbury district and some northern coastal and inland areas. However, generally the State has been enjoying a good summer season with production of wool, meat and dairy products at or near record levels.

PART I : EMPLOYMENT, BUILDING AND NON-RURAL INDUSTRIES.

EMPLOYMENT - New South Wales (See also graph p.14 )  
(The data in this section exclude rural workers, women in private domestic service, defence forces and national servicemen.)

New South Wales employment fell from an end-of-year peak of 1,089,500 in December 1955 to 1,080,200 in January 1956, mainly through the seasonal reduction in retail staffs. While employment remains relatively high its expansion (excluding seasonal movements) seems to have begun to slow down in recent months; the building and transport industries have not taken on additional labour since the middle of 1955, coal mines are using less labour and factory employment has not risen appreciably; as against that the growth of employment in finance, trade and service industries has continued. Total recorded employment in January 1956 was 24,600 or 2% higher than a year earlier and 55,100 more than in January 1954. The rise in 1955 was proportionally higher for female than for male employment and also greater for private than for Government employees.

N.S.W. : WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN CIVIL EMPLOYMENT (Thousand).  
(Excluding rural workers, women in domestic service, defence forces)

Year and Month	Males	Females	Persons		
			Government	Private	Total
1939 - July	529.9	168.0	155.9	542.0	697.9
1951 - November	765.0	295.2	248.3	811.9	1,060.2
1954 - January	748.1	277.0	346.1	779.0	1,025.1
- December	770.0	293.0	253.0	810.0	1,063.0
1955 - January	767.8	287.8	252.4	803.2	1,055.6
- November	784.1	301.5	257.2	828.4	1,085.6
- December	786.1	303.4	257.9	831.6	1,089.5
1956 - January	781.7	298.5	257.3	822.9	1,080.2

The principal employment changes in January 1956 were a seasonal reduction of 8,000 in retail staffs, a fall of over 2,000 in stevedoring and a small decrease in factory employment due to industrial disputes and seasonal factors, and a recovery in building and construction after the Christmas holidays. The rise of 24,600 in employment between January 1955 and 1956 was spread over all major groups, excepting coal mining and sea, rail and air transport.

EMPLOYMENT - NEW SOUTH WALES - In Thousands.

	1939	2 years ended June, 1953.		1954	1955			1956
	July	Peak	Low	Jan.	Jan.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan
Coal Mines	16.8	21.7	19.6	20.8	20.3	19.7	19.3	19.2
Factories	218.1	386.9	345.5	371.0	383.8	393.3	392.3	391.1
Building & Construction	58.4	78.1	61.8	66.4	70.9	74.9	73.7	75.1
Road Transport	23.2	40.2	36.6	36.9	37.2	38.2	38.1	38.2
Shipping & Stevedoring	15.4	18.7	17.1	17.4	18.2	18.6	18.4	16.0
Rail & Air Transport	30.2	44.2	40.9	42.4	43.4	43.0	43.6	43.1
Communications	12.8	31.4	29.5	30.8	31.7	33.2	32.6	32.7
Finance & Property	}	36.8	35.7	36.6	39.0	39.9	40.6	41.3
Wholesale & Produce								
Trade		67.5	67.2	64.0	67.5	69.5	69.8	69.6
Retail Trade	80.0	101.9	88.9	95.2	96.4	100.6	106.0	98.0
Prof.& Pers'l Services	105.7	152.9	148.4	150.8	154.2	160.1	160.4	160.8
ALL CLASSES - TOTAL	697.9	1060.2	986.2	1025.1	1055.6	1085.6	1089.5	1080.2



Commonwealth Employment Service reports for New South Wales indicate that the excess of labour demand over supply has diminished in recent months. The number of unplaced applicants which had been between 9,000 to 11,000 in the second half of 1954 and throughout 1955/<sup>rose</sup> to 14,800 in January and 16,400 in February 1956. Simultaneously the number of unfilled vacancies fell from between 22,000 and 25,000 to 20,100. This partly reflects the effects of industrial disputes on the waterfront and at a Newcastle steel works, and also the closing of some coal mines, but apart from that it appears that the demand for unskilled labour has eased in recent months.

End of Month	COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICE Registrations N.S.W. & A.C.T.				UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS.
	Applicants Unplaced			Vacancies	Recipients, N.S.W.
	Not in Jobs	In Jobs	Total	Unfilled	
1951 August	4,300	4,300	8,600	58,900	100
1952 December	35,700	3,000	38,700	5,900	25,100
1955 February	7,900	3,500	11,400	24,900	1,100
November	5,800	4,900	10,700	25,300	600
December	6,100	5,300	11,400	22,600	1,000
1956 January	9,800	5,000	14,800	22,000	1,300
February	11,100	5,300	16,400	20,100	1,900

An employment survey in larger privately-owned factories in New South Wales (by the Department of Labour and National Service and the Commonwealth Statistician) showed a rise from 198,000 in January 1956 to 199,600 in February. This came mainly from a seasonal expansion in food processing factories. Employment in the steel industry was affected by an industrial dispute and there was also a slight seasonal fall in refrigerator manufacturing. As against that some small rises were recorded in other industries. The February total was 4,500 or 2% higher than a year earlier and 11,700 or 6% more than in February 1954.

EMPLOYMENT IN LARGER PRIVATE FACTORIES SURVEYED - N.S.W. - Thousand Persons

Industrial Group	Feb. '54	Jan. '55	Feb. '55	Dec. '55	Jan. '56	Feb. '56
Building Materials	13.6	14.7	14.9	15.2	15.3	15.2
Basic Metals	29.9	31.9	31.8	32.1	32.6	31.6
Transport Equipment	17.6	19.6	20.0	21.0	21.4	21.8
Other Metal Mfrs.	44.7	46.6	46.7	48.3	47.6	47.5
Chemical Products	8.3	8.6	8.6	8.9	8.9	9.0
Clothing & Textiles	31.5	30.2	30.3	29.6	29.4	29.5
Food, Drink & Tobacco	20.7	21.8	20.5	20.4	20.1	21.5
Other Industries	21.6	22.2	22.3	22.8	22.7	22.5
T o t a l: Men	143.6	148.8	148.6	151.0	151.8	152.3
Women	44.3	46.8	46.5	47.3	46.2	47.3
Persons	187.9	195.6	195.1	198.3	198.0	199.6
Total, excl. Food etc.	167.2	173.8	174.6	177.9	177.9	178.1



# OVERSEA MIGRATION - Australia and New South Wales.

The number of permanent arrivals in Australia which had declined from 175,000 in 1950 to 75,000 in 1953 recovered to 131,000 in 1955, and the net population gain from migration in 1955 of 97,000 (57,000 males and 40,000 females) compares with 68,000 in 1954 and 43,000 in 1953. However migrant arrivals in the second half of 1955 were considerably less than in the first half of the year. Since the end of the war approximately 1.06 million migrants have arrived in Australia, and, after deduction of departures, the net population gain was about 780,000 (460,000 males and 320,000 females). Excepting 1953, males have exceeded females in migration, and in 1954 and 1955 they made up about 60% of the net gain. The net population gain from migration in New South Wales in recent years has been equivalent to only about 20% of the Australian total.

## OVERSEA MIGRATION - Australia and New South Wales

Period	A U S T R A L I A					NEW SOUTH WALES
	P E R M A N E N T			Total Migration	O'Sea & I' State	
	Arrivals	Departures	Net Balance	Net Balance	Net Balance	
1950	175,000	21,000	154,000	153,000	58,000	
1951	132,000	22,000	110,000	111,000	41,000	
1952	128,000	30,000	98,000	94,000	18,000	
1953	75,000	32,000	43,000	43,000	5,000	
1954	104,000	35,000	69,000	68,000	16,000	
1955	131,000	36,000	95,000	97,000	24,000 (a)	

(a) Year ended September, 1955.

During the early post-war years British migrants made up one third to a half of the migrant total. In recent years Italian, Greek, Dutch and German migrants have been arriving in increasing numbers, but British migration also rose in 1955 and made up 29% of the net permanent inflow as compared with 26% for Italians, 13% for Dutch, 12% for Greek and 9% for German migrants.

## NET PERMANENT MIGRATION BY NATIONALITY - Australia

	British	Italian	Dutch	German	Polish, Ukrainian, Baltic States	Greek	T o t a l (incl. other nationalities)
1950	50,000	13,000	11,000	1,000	45,000	2,000	154,000
1953	8,000	12,000	9,000	8,000	-	3,000	43,000
1954	15,000	14,000	10,000	12,000	-	10,000	69,000
1955	28,000	25,000	12,000	9,000	-	11,000	95,000

## WAGES AND EARNINGS - New South Wales.

After being fairly stable in 1954 wages and earnings began to move up again a little in 1955. The nominal wage rate index for men, which is based on award rates with 1937-39 = 100, rose from 328 in December quarter 1954 and 330 in June quarter 1955 to 341 in December quarter. Average weekly earnings per male unit employed in this State, which includes wages and salaries, overtime, bonus payments etc., rose by 13/- in 1954 and by £1.6.0 to £18.18.6 in 1955. Basic wage rates were fixed at £12.3.0 for men (£9.2.0 for women) from September 1953 to November 1955 when for workers under State awards cost of living adjustments were restored; the rate rose to £12.15.0 (£9.11.0 for women) in February 1956.

## WEEKLY WAGES AND EARNINGS - New South Wales - Adult Male Rates.

Month	Basic Wage, Sydney £ per week (a)	Quarter	Nominal Wage Rate Index, N.S.W. 1937-9 = 100 (b)	Average Weekly Earn- ings per Male Unit £ per week (c)
November	7. 6. 0	1950 December	230	11. 7. 6
November	11.17. 0	1952 December	313	16. 5. 0
November	12. 3. 0	1953 December	326	16.17. 6
November	12. 3. 0	1954 December	328	17.10. 6
May	12. 3. 0	1955 June	330	17.13. 0
November	12.13. 0 (d)	December	341	18.16. 6

(a) Payable in first full pay period of month shown; quarterly adjustment abolished in Sept. 1953. (b) End of Quarter. (c) Based on pay-roll tax returns and other sources. Includes A.C.T., excludes armed forces. (d) State awards.

The basic wage and nominal wage rates for men which had been practically unchanged in 1954 rose by 4% and average earnings by 7% in 1955.

Percent. Increase	BASIC WAGE		NOMINAL WAGE RATES		AVERAGE EARNINGS
December Quarters	Men, Sydney		Men	Women	Male Units
1946 to 1953	125%		127%	147%	138%
1953 to 1954	-		1%	3%	4%
1954 to 1955	4%		14%	3%	7%



NEW BUILDING - New South Wales (See also graph p. 15)

(Figures for recent years are subject to revision. Value figures exclude minor alterations and additions).

The recorded value of new building commenced and of that completed in New South Wales during 1955 was at record levels. Commencement values showed a seasonal fall in the December quarter, from £37m. to £32m. but were then still well above the 1954 level, while completions reached the record figure of £33m. in the last quarter of 1955. The value of commencements for the year rose from £90m. in 1953 and £121m. in 1954 to £132m. in 1955, and the value of completions from £101m. and £108m. to £117m. The value of new house and flat commencements recovered in the second half of 1955 from the drop earlier in the year but the year's total was below the 1954 figure, while the expansion in other types of building (shops, factories, public buildings etc.) continued. The value for new houses and flats commenced as a proportion of all building commenced in the State declined from 70% to 84% in the early post-war period to 63% in 1954 and 56% in 1955.

NEW BUILDING COMMENCED IN N.S.W. - VALUE in £m. (Excl. minor alterations etc.)

	Houses	Flats	Shops	Hotels etc.	Factories	Other	Total
ear 1949	35.0	2.3	.4	.3	2.4	6.0	46.4
1953	64.2	.9	3.0	1.8	5.3	14.4	89.6
1954	73.7	2.1	4.9	2.8	9.2	28.5	121.2
1955	72.4	1.7	5.1	3.9	13.5	35.4	132.0

While the total value of new house and flat building in 1955 was fairly well maintained the numbers of dwellings commenced, 26,063, and completed 28,095, were 9% and 3% respectively less than in 1954. Commencements, after a steady fall from 7,534 in March quarter 1954 to 6,002 in 1955 recovered to 7,043 in September quarter followed by a seasonal fall to 6,521 in December quarter. Completions declined from June quarter 1955 onward, following the fall in commencements in the preceding year., but they kept ahead of new commencements, and the number of dwellings listed as uncompleted declined from 29,926 at the end of 1954 to 27,868 in 1955; the peak figure was 35,723 in December 1951. The decline in new dwelling commencements was mainly in Government projects which fell from nearly 6,000 in 1954 to about 4,000 in 1955. Commencements of new houses by owner-builders have steadily declined from over 12,000 in 1952 to 10,500 in 1955 while contract-building activity rose strongly in 1952-1954 and fell again in 1955.

NEW HOUSE AND FLAT BUILDING, N.S.W. : NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS.

Period	Approved	Commenced	Completed	Remaining Uncompleted at end of Period (a)
ear: 1951	35,051	26,913	21,499	35,723
1952	18,916	21,911	26,263	31,500
1953	30,076	25,849	27,153	30,187
1954	29,529	28,606	28,861	29,926
1955	27,505	26,063	28,095	27,868
953 Dec. Qtr.	8,452	7,408	7,764	30,187
954 Dec. Qtr.	7,539	6,711	7,966	29,926
955 Mar. Qtr.	5,941	6,002	6,609	29,305
June Qtr.	8,123	6,497	7,611	28,187
Sept. Qtr.	6,966	7,043	7,187	28,041
Dec. Qtr.	6,475	6,521	6,688	27,868

(a) Partly estimated. Includes some houses on which work has been suspended or abandoned.

In recent years between 50% and 54% of new dwellings completed were of fibro construction. The number of timber dwellings rose from about 13% of the total in 1948 and 1949 to 26% in 1954 and 28% in 1955 while the number of brick dwellings fell from about one third to one fifth of the total.

COAL PRODUCTION - New South Wales (See also graph p.15)

New South Wales coal production in the first five working weeks of 1956 averaged 260,000 tons, as compared with nearly 300,000 tons for that period of 1955 and 1954.

COAL PRODUCTION - NEW SOUTH WALES = Thousand Tons

	Year ended December				Eight Weeks ended			
	1952	1953	1954	1955	21/2/53	20/2/54	19/2/55	18/2/56
nderground	12,492	12,452	13,703	13,819	1,515	1,578	1,390	1,270
pen Cut	2,530	1,722	1,380	900	224	178	108	56
Total	15,022	14,174	15,083	14,719	1,739	1,756	1,498	1,326

Includes 2 weeks holidays in 1953 and 1954 and three weeks in 1955 and 1956.



IRON & STEEL PRODUCTION = New South Wales and Whyalla S.A. (See also graph p. 15)

New South Wales iron and steel production in January 1956 rose appreciably over the level of recent months. Steel output for the seven months ended January was 1.33m. tons as compared with 1.32m. tons a year earlier.

IRON AND STEEL PRODUCTION (Thousand tons)

	Year ended June		Seven Months ended January				January		
	1954	1955	1953	1954	1955	1956	1954	1955	1956
g Iron (N.S.W.)	1,621	1,669	873	981	1,028	1,016	142	142	151
g Iron (Whyalla)	192	182	113	119	107	61	16	15	17
got Steel (N.S.W.)	2,086	2,162	1,054	1,235	1,318	1,331	176	170	193

NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS

Passenger traffic on the State railways in the seven months ended January 1956 was a little higher than in the corresponding 1954-55 period while goods traffic fell. Gross earnings decreased from £44.64m. to £44.06m. but working expenses rose by £2.8m. and the surplus on working account for the seven months of 1955-56 was £2.16m. as compared with £5.54m. and £5.90m. in the corresponding periods of 1954-55 and 1953-54.

NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS

	Seven Months ended January					Month of January	
	Passenger Journeys	Goods (excl. Livestock).	Gross Earnings	Working Expenses	Net (a) Earnings	Gross Earnings	Working Expenses
	Millions	mill. tons	£mill.	£mill.	£mill.	£mill.	£mill.
1939	111.7	8.10	11.17	8.17	3.00	1.52	1.09
1954	160.6	11.36	43.29	37.39	5.90	5.78	5.08
1955	162.5	11.12	44.64	39.10	5.54	5.37	5.47
1956	163.2	10.77	44.06	41.90	2.16	5.69	5.86

(a) Excess of gross earnings over working expenses; excluding Government contributions to developmental lines.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS = New South Wales (See also graph p. 15).

New car registrations in New South Wales declined seasonally from an average of over 5,000 a month in the second half of 1955 to 3,273 in January 1956 but were then still above January 1955, and registrations of new lorries and vans also remained comparatively high. At the end of January 1956, 465,207 cars were on the State register, an increase of 46,950 or 11% over January 1955. During the same period the number of lorries and vans rose by 15,417 or 7% to 233,664.

REGISTRATIONS OF MOTOR VEHICLES - New South Wales

Period	New Vehicles Registered.		Motor Vehicles on Register at end of period.			
	Cars	Lorries Utilities and Vans	Cars	Public Passenger Vehicles	Lorries Utilities and Vans	Total of Foregoing
Year-1938-39	19,924	7,712	213,331	4,708	76,726	294,765
1950-51	46,689	29,076	308,294	7,671	181,529	497,494
1953-54	43,174	21,257	393,951	8,013	210,142	612,106
1954-55	55,944	24,776	437,372	8,201	223,676	669,249
July-January						
1953-54	23,795	12,246	379,932	8,035	206,201	594,168
1954-55	29,852	14,274	418,257	8,281	218,247	644,785
1955-56	34,800	15,386	465,207	8,281	233,664	707,152



## PART II : FINANCE AND TRADE

## MAJOR PRIVATE TRADING BANKS - Australia (See also graph p. 15).

Australian banking statistics reflect the current unfavourable overseas trade trends and relatively tight credit position. Total customers' deposits did not show the usual seasonal rise between January and February and at £1,132m. they remained £24m. less than in February 1955. During the winter of 1955 current deposits fell seasonally by £100m. and the recovery of £70m. between September and February 1956, was well below the increases of £89m., £135m. and £160m. in the corresponding periods of the three preceding years.

The upward trend since 1953 in bank advances was checked in the second half of 1955, and they fell from a peak of £831m. in October to £784m. in January and £774m. in February 1956, which is about the same as in February 1955. The advance-deposit ratio of 58% remained comparatively high for this time of the year. In the second half of February Special Accounts requirements were raised for the first time since September 1955; the monthly average rose by £15m. to £247m. which however is still only 60% of the legal maximum. As usual at this time of the year the banks also invested some of the seasonal deposit inflow in Treasury bills and Government securities while their cash funds declined. The ratio of cash and securities to deposits was 22% in February 1955 and 1956.

## MAJOR PRIVATE TRADING BANKS - Business within Australia

	Deposits at Credit of Customers			Advances to Customers.	Central Bank Special A/c.	Public Securities	Treasury Bills	Cash Items	Ratio to Deposits		
	At Interest	Other	Total						Advances	Special A/c	Cash & Securities
	£m.	£m.	£m.	£m.	£m.	£m.	£m.	£m.	%	%	%
39-Feb.	199	123	322	284	-	20	27	35	88	-	25
54-Feb.	246	1,091	1,337	656	282	138	140	75	49	21	27
55-Feb.	267	1,089	1,356	773	260	125	97	72	57	19	22
Sept.	261	997	1,258	823	232	106	24	65	65	18	16
56-Jan.	261	1,071	1,332	784	232	113	93	76	59	17	21
-Feb.	260	1,072	1,332	774	247	117	112	67	58	19	22

## SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS - N.S.W. and Australia.

Two new savings banks, established by the Bank of New South Wales and the Australia and New Zealand Bank respectively on the 19th and 20th January 1956, had total deposits amounting to £4.3m. in New South Wales and £7.5m. in Australia at 1st February 1956. Statistics for other savings banks refer to the last day of the month, and total savings deposits shown below at £367.3m. for New South Wales and £1,094.7m. for Australia at end of January, but including the two new banks as at 1st February, may not be quite correct, as it is likely that some deposits were transferred from the Commonwealth and State Savings Banks on the 1st February to retain the benefit of interest for January. On the figures shown the increase in savings on deposit in Australia during January 1956 was £3.3m., as against £5.9m. in January 1955, and was confined to New South Wales. On balance deposits with the Commonwealth Savings Bank in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland and with the Victorian State Savings Bank declined during the month and thus partly offset the amount deposited with the two new savings banks. However, because of the difference in dates mentioned there is as yet no clear picture of the influence of the new banks on the business of the other savings banks and on savings activity in general. Nor are comparable data available for interest-bearing deposits with the trading banks some of which could have been transferred to the new savings banks.

## SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS = New South Wales and Australia = £ million.

End of Month	NEW SOUTH WALES			A U S T R A L I A			
	C'wealth Savings Bank	Other Savings Banks	All Savings Banks	C'wealth Savings Bank	State Savings Banks	Other Savings Banks	All Savings Banks
an. 1953	311.8		311.8	586.1	332.0		918.1
an. 1954	329.4		329.4	626.6	349.9		976.5
ec. 1954	347.8		347.8	669.7	370.4		1040.1
an. 1955	350.2		350.2	673.7	372.3		1046.0
ec. 1955	364.1		364.1	703.9	387.5		1091.4
an. 1956	363.0	4.3 ∅	367.3	701.3	385.9	7.5 ∅	1094.7

∅ Savings banks established by the Bank of N.S.W. and A.N.Z. Bank opened on 19/1/56 and 20/1/56 in all States except S.A. and Tas. Balances shown as at 1st February, 1956.



# DEBITS TO CUSTOMERS' ACCOUNTS - New South Wales Trading Banks.

(Debits refer to all trading banks operating in the State, excluding Government accounts at city banks and Central Bank transactions).

Money turnovers, as indicated by bank debits, fell seasonally in January 1956, but were 6% higher than in January 1955.

## DEBITS TO CUSTOMERS' ACCOUNTS - NEW SOUTH WALES - £mill.

Weekly Average	1947-48	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56	Change 53/54-54/55
March Quarter	56.7	150.8	147.7	168.5	183.0	Plus 9%
June "	62.1	155.6	160.5	182.4	198.9	" 9%
September "	64.1	141.4	155.0	177.5	193.5	" 9%
December "	70.3	162.3	177.0	190.5	211.4	" 11%
January	59.6	124.6	151.9	173.8	183.9	" 6%

## PRICES - Australia (See also graph p. 15)

The Australian wholesale and retail price index series which had been fairly stationary throughout 1954 rose by 6% and 4% respectively in 1955. The downward trend in the export price index, mainly in the wool series, continued in 1955 until halted by the improvement in wool prices in December, while the import price index series remained fairly stable (last date available June 1955).

## PRICE INDEXES - Australia. Base 1936-37 to 1938-39 = 100.

Quarter	Retail Prices (a)	Wholesale Prices	Export Prices incl. gold	Import Prices (b)
December 1945	129	141	145	202
December 1952	253	315	475	400
December 1953	262	322	481	390
December 1954	263	315	428	395
June 1955	268	326	420	396 (c)
December 1955	275	334 (c)	393 (c)	n.y.a.
PERCENTAGE CHANGE - DECEMBER QUARTER TO DECEMBER QUARTER				
45 to 1950	+ 44%	+ 68%	+ 336%	+ 78%
50 to 1951	+ 24%	+ 23%	- 20%	+ 19%
51 to 1952	+ 10%	+ 9%	- 6%	- 6%
52 to 1953	+ 4%	+ 2%	+ 1%	- 2%
53 to 1954	-	- 2%	- 11%	+ 1%
54 to 1955	+ 4%	+ 6%	- 8%	+ 1% (d)

(a) All Items, "C" Series, Six Capital Cities. (b) Commonwealth Bank.  
(c) Subject to revision. (d) June quarter 1954 to 1955.

The Interim Retail Price Index for six capital cities, on the base of 1952-53 equals 100, which had been steady at 103 throughout 1954 rose to 105 in June quarter and 107 in December quarter 1955, with rises of 5% in the Food and Other Items series, 3% in the Rent series and 1% in the Clothing series over the year. In December quarter 1955 the index for Sydney was 105, Brisbane and Adelaide 106, Melbourne 108, Hobart 110 and Perth 112.

## INTERIM RETAIL PRICE INDEX - SIX CAPITAL CITIES - YEAR 1952-53 = 100

	Food	Clothing and Drapery	Rent	Other Items	TOTAL, ALL GROUPS
1950-51	68	78	90	78	75
1952-53	100	100	100	100	100
Qtr. 1953	103	102	104	101	102
Qtr. 1954	104	102	109	101	103
Qtr. 1955	109	103	112	106	107

Renewed impetus in the upward trend of the Wholesale Price Index during 1955 came from the food, building materials, rubber and hides and metals and coal series. The overall increase of 5% between December 1954 and 1955 applied to both the principally imported and home produced goods series. Only the textile fibres series, in which wool plays a major part, declined during the year. The total index at the end of December was near the record level of August 1953.

## WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX - Australia. Base 1936-37 to 1938-39 = 100.

	Textile Fibres	Metal & Coal	Building Mater's.	Food & Tobacco	Rubber & Hides	Goods Principally Import.	Home Prd.	ALL GROUPS
Week	Mar. '51	Sept. '52	July '52	Aug. '53	Mar. '51	May '52	Aug. '53	Aug. '53
1-53	907	399	435	336	362	352	360	335
1953	561	388	365	304	192	269	337	317
1954	507	393	365	307	225	277	333	317
1955	447	404	407	326	342	291	352	334

(The series for Oils, Fats and Waxes and for Chemicals have been omitted).

The Australian Export Price Index at the end of 1955 was lower than at any time since 1949. That was due largely to the fall in wool prices; that series, with a weight of 46% in the total index, has fallen from over 600 in 1953 and the first half of 1954 to 532 in December 1954 and 437 in September-November 1955, recovering to 453 in December and 460 in January-February 1956. The export price index excluding wool rose from 348 in December 1954 to 352 in 1955. This reflects rises in the series for butter and hides (18% each), metals (12%), dried fruits (8%) and tallow (4%), offsetting a decline of 13% in the wheat series which at the end of 1955 was at the lowest level for nine years. Meat and sugar prices fluctuated throughout 1955 and in December were a little less than a year earlier. Only minor fluctuations occurred in the Commonwealth Bank's Import Price Index during 1953, 1954 and the first half of 1955; later figures are not yet available.

EXPORT PRICE INDEX - Australia = Base 1936-37 to 1938-39 = 100

MONTH	Wool	Wheat	Butter	Metals	Meats	Sugar	Dried Fruits	Tallow	Hides	Gold	ALL GROUPS
1953	1,437	452	313	869	321	501	303	483	1,041	191	860
1954	611	413	325	442	340	500	290	341	377	177	473
1955	532	359	313	512	384	468	263	350	197	178	432
1955	437	334	313	545	398	468	278	344	235	178	388
1955	453	314	368	575	364	454	283	365	232	178	398

NEW SOUTH WALES ACCOUNTS

Commonwealth tax reimbursements received by the State in the eight months ended February 1956 totalled £32.7m. out of a budget figure of £59.1m. for the full financial year, as against £31.2m. out of £58.4m. in 1954-55. State taxation and other Governmental revenue yielded more in the 1955-56 period, lifting total Government revenue from £59.3m. to £63.8m. At the same time Governmental and debt expenditure rose from £68.2m. to £75.7m. Expenditure on account of the business undertakings rose from £54.5m. to £57.2m., mainly through higher railway expenditure, while their revenue fell from £60.1m. to £59.8m, thus reducing their working surplus from £5.6m. to £2.6m. Gross loan expenditure on works in the 1955-56 period was £30m., as compared with £29m. and £28m. in the corresponding 1954-55 and 1953-54 periods, but it was less than in 1952-53 and 1951-52.

NEW SOUTH WALES ACCOUNTS - (£millions)

REVENUE	July-February			EXPENDITURE	July-February		
	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56		1953-54	1954-55	1955-56
Reimbursements	30.0	31.2	32.7	Net Debt Charges	12.4	13.6	15.0
State Taxation	11.8	13.2	15.3	Other, excl. Debt Charges			
Other Governmental	13.9	14.9	15.8	Governmental	50.7	54.6	60.7
Railways	48.5	50.7	50.2	Railways	43.0	45.0	47.1
Tram & Bus Service	7.6	7.5	7.6	Tram & Bus Service	8.7	8.5	8.8
Sydney Harbour	1.5	1.9	2.0	Sydney Harbour	1.0	1.0	1.3
Total Revenue	113.3	119.4	123.6	Total Expenditure	115.8	122.7	132.9
				GROSS LOAN EXPENDITURE ON WORKS & SERVICES	28.0	29.0	30.1

SYDNEY STOCK EXCHANGE

After a firm opening in the new year share prices began to ease towards the end of January, and after a brief recovery this tendency continued in February and early March. The monthly average for 75 shares was 314 in February 1956, as compared with 316 in January and 326 in July 1955.

INDEX OF SHARE PRICES - SYDNEY - (Compiled by N.S.W. Government Statistician).

	Manufacturing & Distributing	Retail	Public Utilities	Pastoral Finance	Insurance	Total 75 Companies	34 Active Shares
	P a r V a l u e = 1 0 0						
-Dec.	292	252	197	161	323	230	247
-June	530	398	167	302	757	367	357
-Dec.	354	244	151	189	557	247	248
-Feb.	408	352	171	226	590	297	307
-July	440	438	165	270	582	326	327
-Jan.	429	420	151	259	582	316	315
-Feb.	426	419	149	259	579	314	314
	I n d e x - Y e a r 1 9 4 7 = 1 0 0						
-Peak	161	128	92	182	202	143	134
-Low	107	79	77	111	136	96	92
-Feb.	129	135	77	152	148	123	117



WHOLESALE TRADE - New South Wales

(Goods sold at wholesale by traders registered under the Sales Tax Act).

Wholesale turnovers in New South Wales, as shown in Sales Tax returns, in December quarter 1955 were not quite maintained at the relatively high level of the preceding quarter, although there is usually a seasonal rise in the course of the year. However the December quarter 1955 figure was still 10% above the comparable 1954 figure, and the full year's figure of 1,020m. was 13% higher than in 1954 and 30% higher than in 1953.

WHOLESALE SALES, TAXABLE & EXEMPT GOODS, N.S.W. (Traders reg'd under Sales Tax Act).

	Total Sales £million				Percent. Change Over Previous Year				
	1952	1953	1954	1955	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Dec Qtr.	186.1	179.7	207.0	234.5	+ 29%	+ 13%	- 3%	+ 15%	+ 13%
Nov "	196.5	188.6	226.0	253.0	+ 31%	- 2%	- 4%	+ 20%	+ 12%
Oct. "	176.7	203.3	226.9	268.7	+ 33%	- 16%	+ 15%	+ 12%	+ 18%
Sep. "	184.2	215.3	240.6	263.8	+ 26%	- 11%	+ 17%	+ 12%	+ 10%
Year	743.5	786.9	900.5	1020.0	+ 30%	- 5%	+ 6%	+ 14%	+ 13%

RETAIL TRADE - Large Sydney Stores

Changes in the money value of sales as compared with the previous year, in large city stores were comparatively small in recent months while the value of stock held has tended to rise. The value of sales in the December quarter of 1955 was only 1% higher than in 1954, and while the January 1956 figure advanced by 4% over 1955 it did not exceed January 1954, although prices have risen appreciably since then. These stores however represent only a section of total retail trade, and business in other retail outlets seems to have been growing faster in recent years.

RETAIL TRADE - LARGE SYDNEY STORES - Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period of the previous year.

Period	Value of Sales					Value of Stock (End of Period)				
	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
January (Month)	- 2%	- 6%	+ 1%	- 4%	+ 4%	+ 41%	- 24%	+ 11%	+ 7%	+ 10%
1st Quarter	- 9%	+ 2%	+ 10%	+ 5%		+ 15%	- 24%	+ 12%	+ 9%	
2nd Quarter	- 16%	+ 9%	+ 9%	+ 4%		- 4%	- 13%	+ 13%	+ 8%	
3rd Quarter	- 5%	+ 11%	+ 7%	+ 1%		- 20%	- 2%	+ 9%	+ 10%	
Year	- 9%	+ 5%	+ 8%	+ 3%						

The turnover value in large Sydney stores increased in 1955 by 3½% over 1954. Increases ranged from 4% to 9% for men's wear, boots and shoes, some sections of women's wear, general hardware, fancy goods and food, down to 2% for furniture. Decreases were shown in dress piece-goods (which have constantly declined since 1951) and in household piece goods, hosiery and electrical goods. In recent years the main turnover gains were shown for the men's and women's wear sections; in piecegoods and furniture sections turnovers have remained below the 1951 peak, and other sections show only small gains. These figures do not take account of price changes which may have affected the various types of goods differently.

RETAIL TRADE - LARGE SYDNEY STORES - Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with previous year.

Commodity Group	Value of Sales				Value of Stock (December)			
	1952	1953	1954	1955	1952	1953	1954	1955
Piecegoods-Household	-27%	+ 1%	+ 18%	- 1%	-27%	-20%	+ 3%	+ 14%
-Dress	- 8%	- 1%	- 1%	-10%	-23%	- 6%	+ 7%	- 4%
Men's Wear	- 6%	+ 7%	+ 8%	+ 4%	-18%	+ 12%	+ 6%	+ 4%
Men's and Boys' Wear	-13%	+ 6%	+ 12%	+ 8%	-22%	- 8%	+ 10%	+ 7%
Boots and Shoes	- 3%	+ 1%	+ 4%	+ 5%	-13%	+ 1%	+ 3%	+ 12%
General Clothing & Piecegoods	- 9%	+ 4%	+ 8%	+ 4%	-20%	- 1%	+ 6%	+ 7%
Furniture	-19%	+ 5%	+ 6%	+ 2%	-25%	-16%	+ 15%	+ 11%
Hardware & Electrical	- 9%	+ 6%	+ 9%	+ 3%	-17%	- 1%	+ 18%	+ 20%
ALL ITEMS (Incl. other)	- 9%	+ 5%	+ 8%	+ 3½%	-20%	- 2%	+ 9%	+ 10%
Index 1937/8=100, All Items	326	342	370	382	314	308	337	367

The average number of employees in the stores listed was 2½% plus 3% higher in 1955 than in 1954. Remuneration paid to them as percentage of total sales was 17% in 1955, as compared with 16% in 1954 and 1953, 17% in 1952 and 14% to 15% in 1949-1951.

# HIRE PURCHASE = Australia.

(Statistics collected from March quarter 1953 onward refer to firms which finance retail sales without retailing goods themselves. Figures for 1955 are preliminary only.)

Preliminary Australian hire purchase statistics for the year 1955 show a total of 958,000 agreements concluded financing £168m. out of a total value of £267m. for goods sold under the agreements. The value of goods so sold was £225m. in 1954 and £166m. in 1953. In 1955 about 77% of the total value of goods were motor vehicles, 18½% household and personal goods and 4½% plant and machinery. The amount financed corresponded to 58½% of the sales value for motor vehicles and plant and 82% in the case of household and personal goods.

Figures for December quarter 1955 indicate a slackening in the motor vehicle section of hire purchase trade where, compared with the September quarter, the number of new agreements fell by 4½% to 75,500 and the value of sales by nearly £1½m. to £5½m. However, the value of plant and machinery sales under hire purchase rose by 34% to £3½m. and that of household and personal goods sales by 2¾% to £14½m., and numerically new agreements were a record.

The balances outstanding under hire purchase agreements rose fairly steadily at the rate of 6% to 8% each quarter in 1955 (following an increase from £110m. in December, 1953 to £162m. in December, 1954) to £208m. at end of the year.

## HIRE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS MADE BY FINANCE COMPANIES FOR GOODS SOLD AT RETAIL A u s t r a l i a

	Motor Vehicle and Business Equipment		Household and Personal Goods		T o t a l A l l G o o d s			Balances outstanding End of Period
	Net Value of Goods £mill.	Amount Financed £mill.	Net Value of Goods £mill.	Amount Financed £mill.	Number	Net Value of Goods £mill.	Amount Financed £mill.	
Year 1953	132	71	34	26	663	166	97	110
1954	178	103	47	38	892	225	141	162
1955	217	127	50	41	958	267	168	209
Quarter								
Dec. 1954	50	29	14	12	251	64	41	162
Sept. 1955	58	34	12	10	243	70	44	195
Dec. 1955	58	34	14	12	262	72	46	208

## LIFE ASSURANCE = New Business In New South Wales.

The post-war expansion in the value of new life assurance business continued in 1955 when new policies worth £123m. were issued in New South Wales, compared with £113m. and £100m. in the two preceding years. The value of new industrial policies has remained at about £13½m. during the past four years, and the expansion was confined to the ordinary branch. The rise in 1955 was due partly to the larger number of policies issued in the ordinary branch, 117,000, as compared with 109,200 in 1954 and 111,400 in 1953, and partly to the higher average value per policy issued, £940 as compared with £910 and £776. The amount of new loans granted by life assurance companies, mostly on the security of mortgages on real estate, fell from a peak of £27m. in 1951 to £18m. in 1954 but recovered to £26m. in 1955.

## LIFE ASSURANCE - NEW BUSINESS IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

Period	Ordinary Dept.		Industrial Dept.		Total Sum Assured on New Policies	New Loans Granted
	No. of Policies	Sum Assured	No. of Policies	Sum Assured		
	000	£mill.	000	£mill.	£mill.	£mill.
Year 1939(a)	50.5	18.18	156.8	7.54	25.72	not available
1945(a)	53.5	24.00	109.9	7.51	31.51	not available
1950(a)	98.0	58.67	106.8	11.1³	69.80	21.17
1951(a)	101.7	78.19	97.4	11.52	89.71	26.60
1952(a)	111.0	81.27	99.6	13.34	94.61	21.75
1953(a)	111.4	86.50	98.5	13.59	100.09	18.64
1954(b)	109.2	99.37	91.9	13.40	112.77	17.70
1955(b)	117.0	109.94	83.4	13.37	123.31	25.88
Dec. Quarter						
1953(b)	30.7	24.94	19.6	2.78	27.72	4.15
1954(b)	29.7	30.27	30.4	3.22	33.49	5.56
1955(b)	30.3	32.18	21.4	3.44	35.62	7.68

(a) Aggregates of yearly returns for various balance dates (mainly September and December). (b) Total of monthly figures.



## PART III : RURAL INDUSTRIES.

THE SEASON: (See graph p. 14).

Rainfall received in practically all parts of the State in January, February and early March 1956 ranged from normal to well above average level. Major flooding in the Hawkesbury, North Western Slopes and Plains and far North Coast areas caused heavy damage to crops and property. Temperatures generally were mild for the time of the year. Except in the areas affected by excessive rain and floods, favourable summer conditions have prevailed for the rural industries. Pasture growth has been well sustained, stock is in good condition and fodder crops are progressing well.

RAINFALL INDEX, NEW SOUTH WALES, "Normal Rainfall" = 100 for each month

	Sheep Districts					Wheat Districts				Coastal Dairying Dist.			
	N	C	S	W	Total	N	C	S	Total	N	C	S	Total
55-July	97	72	131	338	100	93	66	119	102	53	40	33	47
-August	108	115	146	177	130	124	134	157	147	7	21	31	13
-September	88	98	100	114	98	93	91	110	103	92	72	50	82
-October	304	307	214	444	291	315	270	221	246	124	134	96	123
-November	78	133	98	104	103	100	140	87	103	25	141	101	64
-December	76	62	94	35	73	78	76	76	76	310	136	142	244
-Year	133	151	133	160	141	142	142	135	138	120	135	103	122
56-January	74	62	96	35	73	80	67	80	77	224	138	118	188
-February	199	248	248	154	224	169	229	251	234	138	163	110	141

N: Northern; C: Central; S: Southern; W: Western.

DAIRYING.

Favourable seasonal conditions in New South Wales dairying districts during the summer have lifted output to the highest level since the war. For the seven months ended January milk production for all uses is estimated at 208m. gall. in 1956, as compared with 187m. gall. in 1955 and 167m. gall. in 1954. The greater portion of the increased output went into butter production which reached 12m. lbs. in January 1956 and 59m. lbs in the seven months ended January 1956; that is more than at any time since 1942-43. The steady rise in Milk Board intake continued, and reached the record figure of 41½m. gall. in the seven months of 1955-56. Milk use for cheese and other condensory products partly recovered from the decline of 1954 but remained less than in some recent years.

WHOLEMILK - PRODUCTION AND USE - NEW SOUTH WALES - Mill. gallons.

	(1) WHOLE MILK All Purposes	(2) BUTTER Factory	(3) CHEESE Output	(4) MILK BOARD	(5) PROCESSED Milk	(6) OTHER Uses
January						
1954	27.6	15.0 (7)	.7	5.3	2.2	4.4
1955	33.0	21.2 (10)	.5	5.9	1.4	4.0
1956 Prel.	38.7	25.7 (12)	1.0	6.0	2.0	4.0
July-January						
1953	192.7	104.1 (50)	4.8	35.9	17.5	30.4
1954	166.7	80.0 (39)	5.1	37.8	13.5	30.3
1955	187.3	108.1 (52)	3.5	39.9	7.8	28.0
1956 Prel.	208.1	122.5 (59)	4.6	41.5	11.1	28.4

(1) Total State dairy output. (2) Weight in mill.lbs. shown in brackets; converted at rate of 2.075 gall. per lb. (3) 1. gall. taken as equal to 1lb. (4) Wholemilk supplied to Board for distribution. (5) Used for condensed, concentrated etc. milk. (6) Milk used for farm-made butter and cheese and fresh milk not sold through Milk Board.

Fresh milk (whole milk and sweet cream) distribution through the New South Wales Milk Board has been expanding in recent years with population growth and extension of the distribution zone. The area at present supplied by the Board contains about 2½m. people or 70% of the State's population. Milk and cream distributed by the Board to consumers increased from 30m. gall. in 1938-39 and 68m. gall. in 1954 to 71m. gall. in 1955. In addition some milk is sold direct by dairy-man vendors within the area, and adding this quantity, estimated at present at about 3m. gall. a year, average consumption of fresh milk per head of population in the Milk Board area is now equal to about 30 gall. Approximately one third of the total wholemilk produced in the State is consumed as fresh milk.

(See Table at foot of p. 13.)

M E A T

New South Wales meat production is estimated to have risen from 374,500 tons in 1954 to the record figure of 384,700 tons in 1955. The increase was mainly in beef production which reached 228,000 tons. Mutton production remained near the pre-war average of 74,000 tons and lamb production, after the expansion of the war and early post-war period, was around 49,000 tons in 1953, 1954 and 1955. Production of pig meats, after a lag in the early post-war years, rose appreciably in 1954 and 1955 when it reached 32,500 tons (16,400 of pork and 11,900 of bacon and ham in cured weight terms). Meat production in Queensland (mainly beef) and Western Australian also rose appreciably in 1955 and the Australian total of 1.23m. tons for the year compares with 1.20m. tons in 1954 and a pre-war average of 980,000 tons. Exports of fresh and frozen meats from Australia which had fallen from a pre-war average of 223,000 tons to less than half that quantity in some post-war years recovered to 217,000 tons in 1955, and the use of meat for canning (mostly export) and curing has also increased in recent years. Of the meat produced in Australia in 1955 approximately 68% was used in Australia as fresh or frozen meat, 18% was exported and 14% was canned or cured.

MEAT PRODUCTION = New South Wales & Australia = Thousand Tons.

Early Average Year	New South Wales				Australia		
	Beef & Veal	Mutton	Lamb	Pork, Bacon & Ham (a)	TOTAL FRESH MEAT Bone in Weight	Canned Meat (b)	
36-37 to 38-39	181.1	74.0	29.8	25.6	310.5	982.2	12.3
1949	182.7	62.8	59.5	29.6	334.6	1055.4	45.0
1952	192.3	66.3	48.9	28.5	336.0	1040.2	64.2
1953	224.4	74.6	49.1	28.4	376.5	1162.6	92.7
1954(c)	219.5	75.6	49.0	30.4	374.5	1197.0	71.5
1955(c)	228.0	74.5	49.7	32.5	384.7	1225.8	77.0

(a) Cured weight of bacon and ham converted to fresh weight. (b) Years ended June. (c) Subject to revision.

Australian annual consumption of fresh and frozen meat per head of population is estimated to have risen from an average of 186lbs. (carcass weight) in 1946-49 to between 201lbs. and 203lbs. in the last four years. In the latter period beef and lamb consumption declined while more mutton and pork has been used. Recent fresh and frozen meat consumption figures per head remain about 12% below the average of the immediate pre-war years mainly because of lesser use of beef. Decreased mutton consumption was compensated by greater use of lamb.

ANNUAL MEAT CONSUMPTION PER HEAD = AUSTRALIA = in lbs.

	Av. 1936-37 to 1938-39	1952-53	1953-54P	1954-55P	1955P
Beef & Veal (Carcass weight)	144	118	115	115	115
Mutton	60	49	51	50	51
Lamb	15	29	27	26	26
Pork	10	6	8	10	11
Total	229(a)	202	201	201	203
Other Meats (b)	19(a)	19	20	21	n.y.a.
ALL MEATS (Retail weight) (c)	180	157	157	158	n.y.a.

(a) Canned meat included with fresh meat. (b) Offal, canned meat, bacon and ham. (c) Retail weight taken as 71% of carcass. (P) Preliminary.



W O O L (See also graph p. 14).

Wool deliveries in to New South Wales stores (excluding Albury) in the eight months ended February 1956 totalled 1,22m. bales. This is appreciably more than for this period of earlier seasons. Receipts in the first eight months of the season usually equal about 82% to 86% of the year's total. Sales in February 1956 were suspended for about two weeks on account of the waterfront stoppage, and the balance of wool in store at the end of the month, 311,000 bales, was substantially greater than usual for this time of the year. Sales proceeds fell from £122m. in the eight months of 1953-54 and £94m. in 1954-55 to £72m. in 1955-56, partly because of the smaller quantity sold and partly because of lower prices. The average price of greasy wool sold in the eight months fell from 85d. in 1953-54 and 72d. in 1954-55 to 61d. in 1955-56. The average price per bale of greasy wool fell less, from £104 and £90 to £77, because the average weight per bale of greasy wool sold rose from 295lbs. and 300 lbs. to 303 lbs.

RECEIPTS & DISPOSAL OF WOOL - N.S.W. Stores excl. Albury -  
Thousand Bales.

	1955-56			1954-55	1953-54	1950-51
	Sydney	Newcastle & Goulburn	Total N.S.W.	Total N.S.W.	Total N.S.W.	Total N.S.W.
Carry over from June	23	3	26	21	18	13
Receipts July-Feb.	929	292	1,221	189	250	1,135
Total:	952	295	1,247	1,210	1,268	1,148
Disposals July-Feb.	738	198	936	1,032	1,185	1,009
Balance in Store						
End of Feb.	214	97	311	178	83	137
Value of Sales £mill.	57.1	15.3	72.4	94.0	122.1	190.6

Wool store deliveries in other States so far this season have also been comparatively heavy, and the Australian total up to the end of February was 3.68m. bales, as against 3.39m. bales in 1954-55. The quantity sold in the eight months rose from 2.56m. bales to 2.64m. bales but proceeds fell from £232m. to £202m.

At wool sales held at Australian centres after the termination of the waterfront stoppage in February and early March good buying competition was again maintained by the main user countries leading to full clearance of offerings. Prices varied little and the February average for New South Wales remained at the January figure of 61d. per lb. greasy (full-clip basis). This is the highest level achieved so far this season but remains 13½ below the 1954-55 average.

AVERAGE PRICE OF GREASY WOOL - N.S.W. - Pence per lb. Greasy

Season ended in June	d. per lb.	Month (a)	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56
			Pence per lb.			
1939	10.3	September	73.0	83.0	75.0	58.0
1951	145.3	October	78.0	84.0	71.0	58.0
1952	76.5	November	78.0	84.0	68.0	58.0p
1953	85.1	December	82.0	81.0	70.5	60.0p
1954	81.8	January	82.0	80.0	69.0	61.0p
1955	70.6	February	83.0	77.0	70.0	61.0p

(a) Average that would be realised if whole clip were sold at price levels of the month named. p. Preliminary.

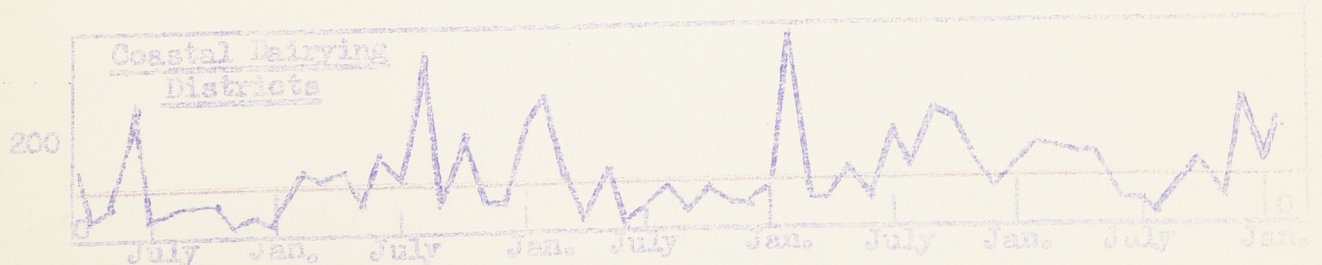
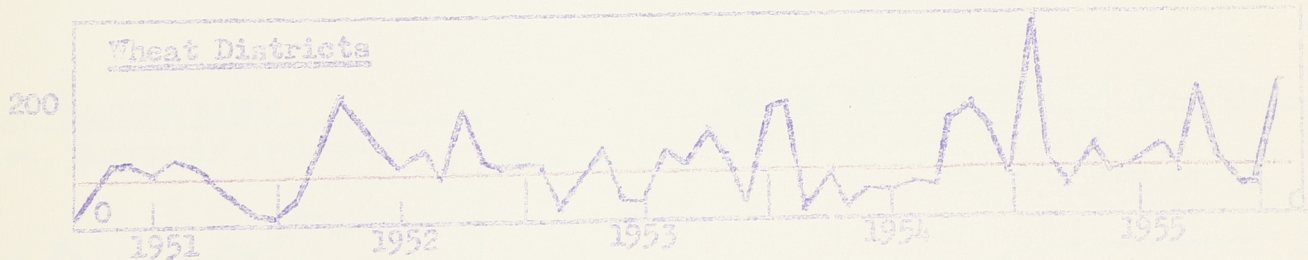
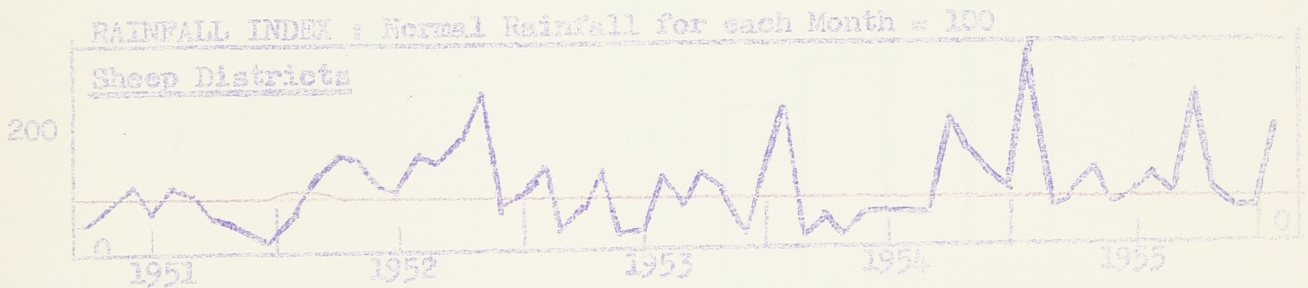
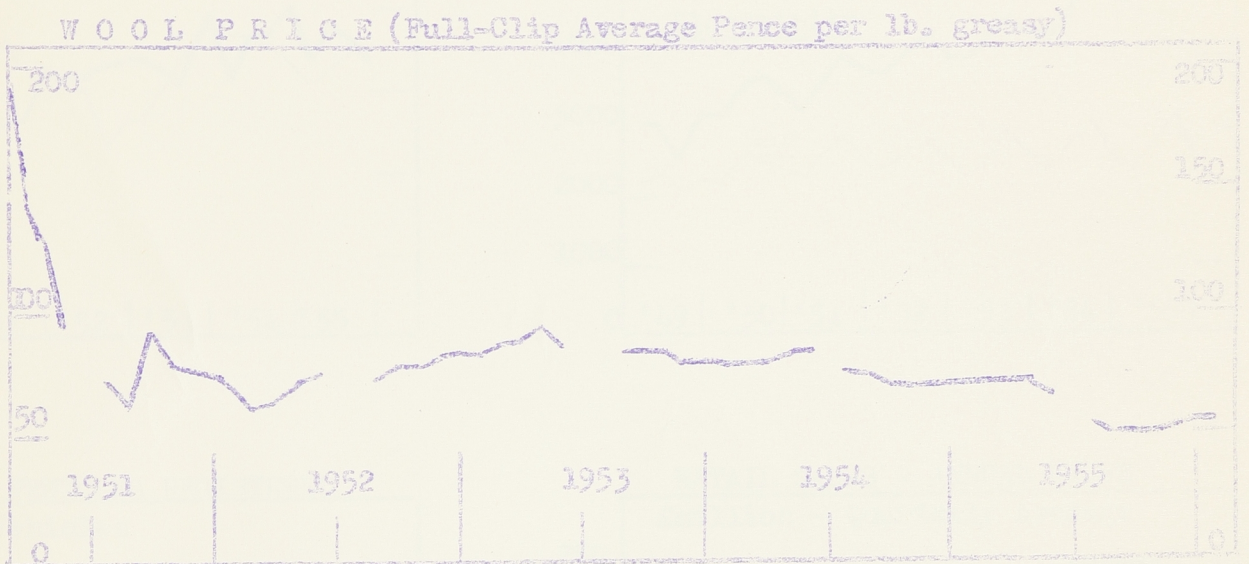
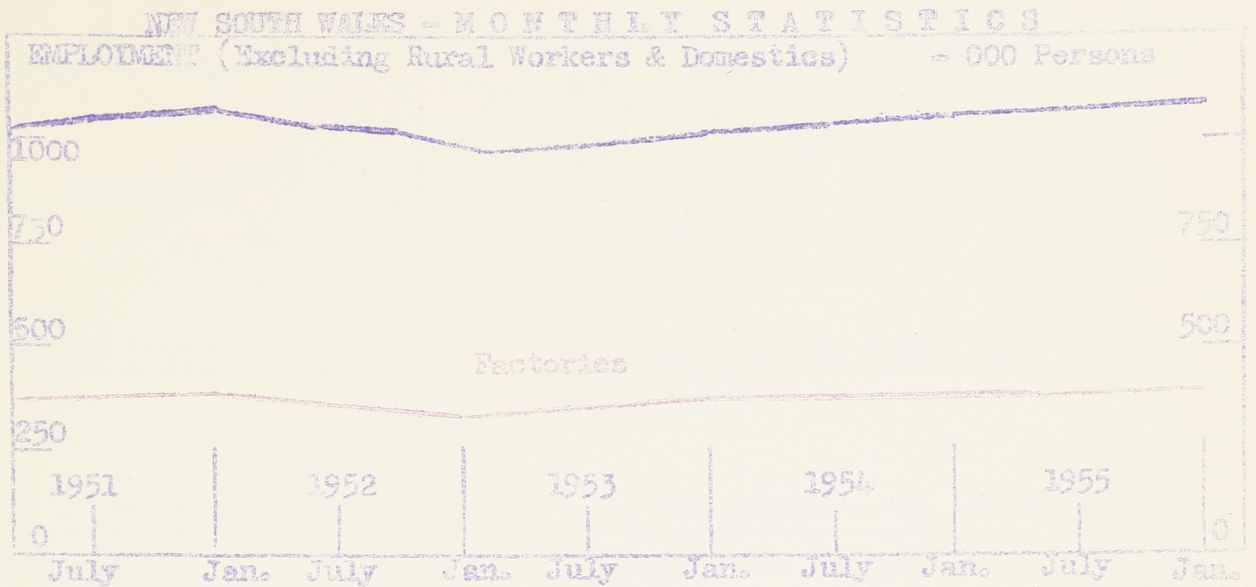
N.S.W. MILK BOARD = DISTRIBUTION OF MILK & FRESH CREAM.  
Excluding Supplies to Milk Processors. Million gallons

Year	Sydney	Newcastle	Wollongong	Erina	Blue Mts. Lithgow	Hunter	Illawarra	Upper Hunter	Total
1939	28.03	2.20							30.23
1949	51.40	4.48	1.43	.79	1.08				59.18
1952	53.36	4.94	1.95	.91	2.05				63.21
1953	54.15	4.89	2.10	.91	1.91	.97			64.93
1954	56.17	5.25	2.45	1.01	2.00	.95	.20x	.15p	68.18
1955	58.08	5.42	2.69	1.08	2.03	1.14	.30	.21	71.00

x As from 2/4/54; p As from 4/6/54.

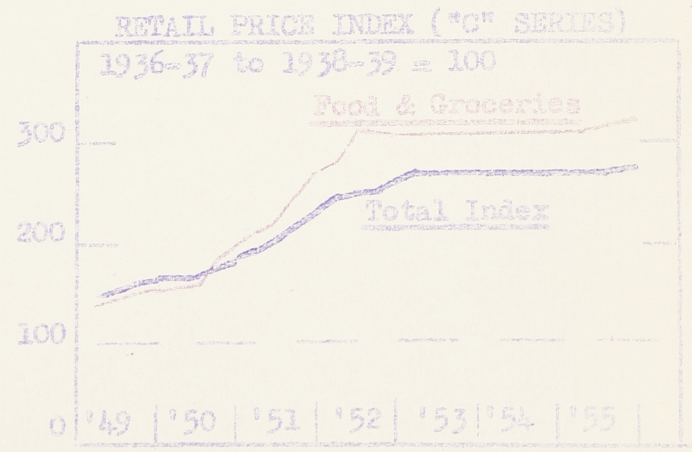
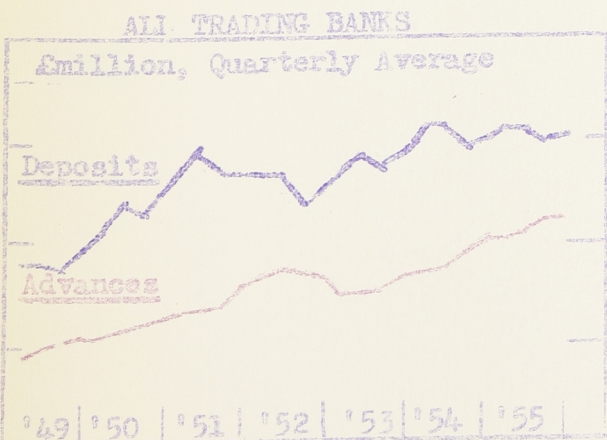
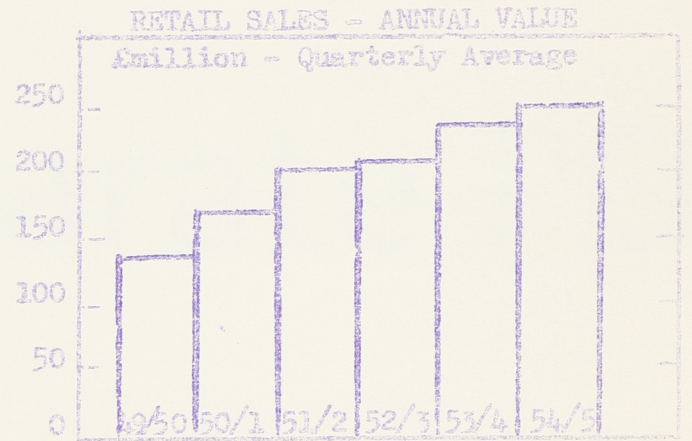
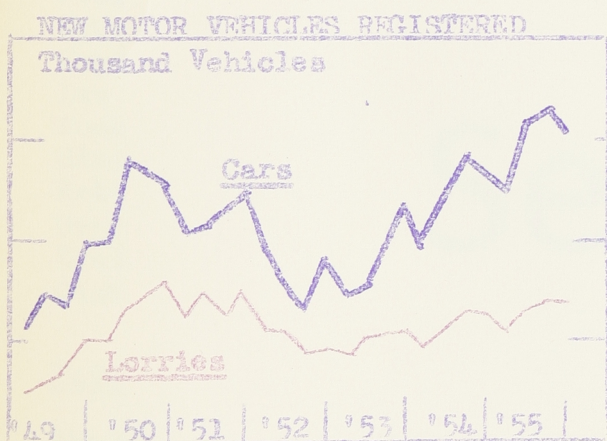
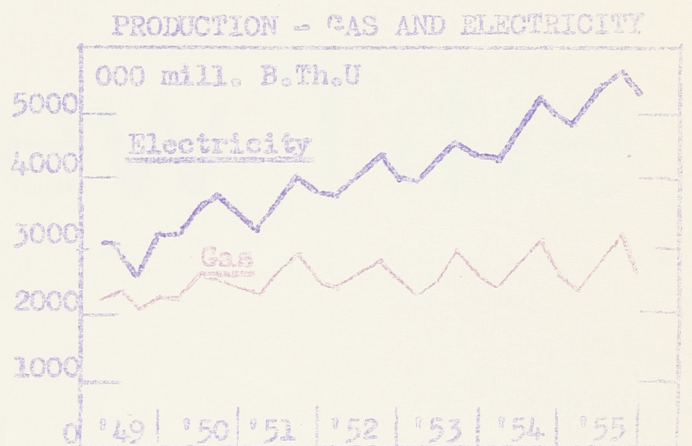
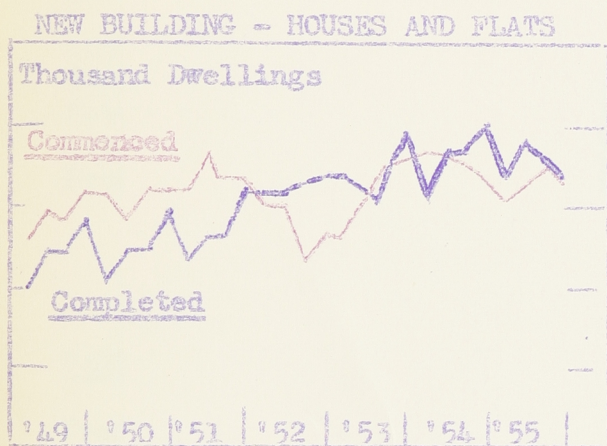
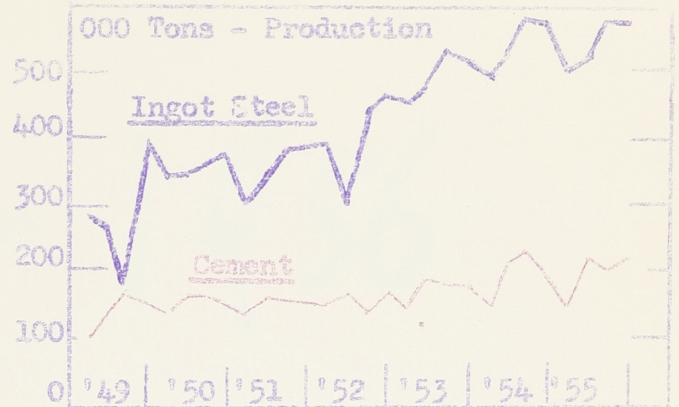
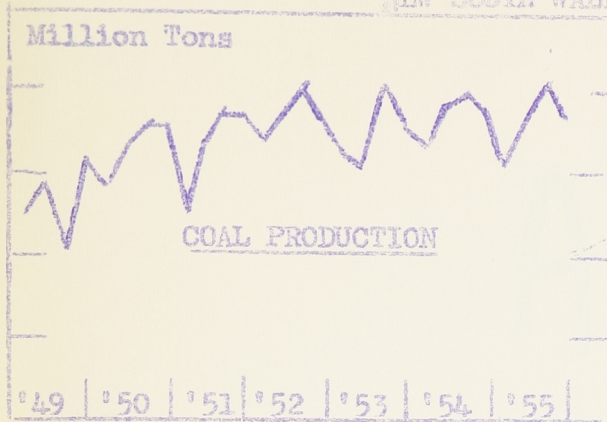
(See text p. 11).







# NEW SOUTH WALES - QUARTERLY STATISTICS



Series start in March Quarter 1949 and go up to December Quarter 1955.